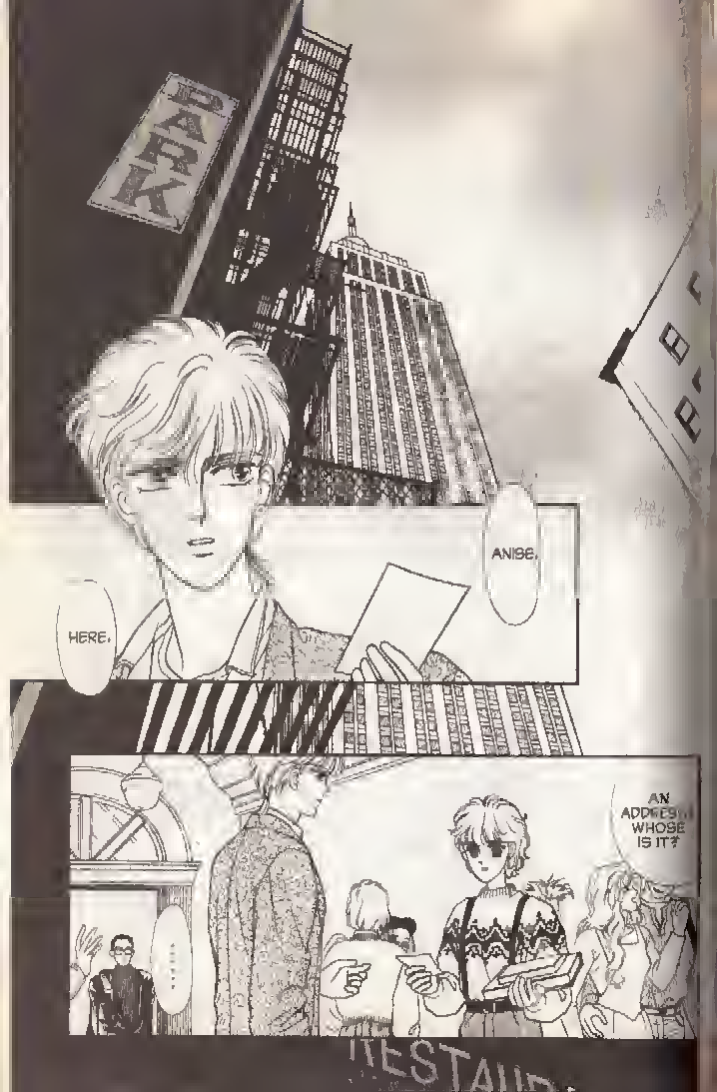
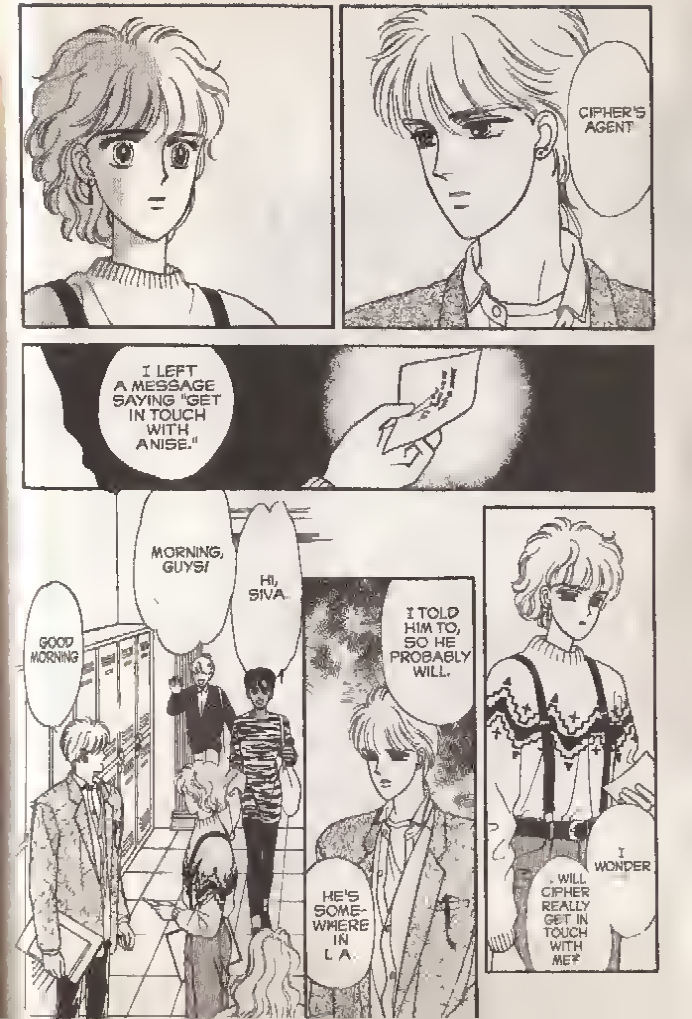
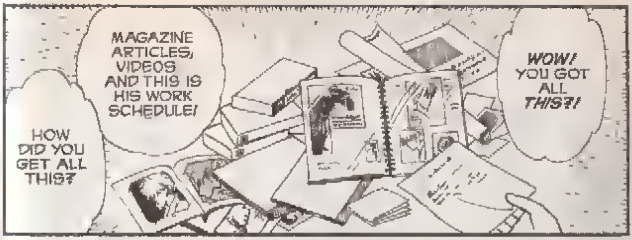
CIPHER

Scene 11: RIPTIDE


PARK
HERE.
ANISE.
AN ADDRESS! WHOSE IS IT?
.....

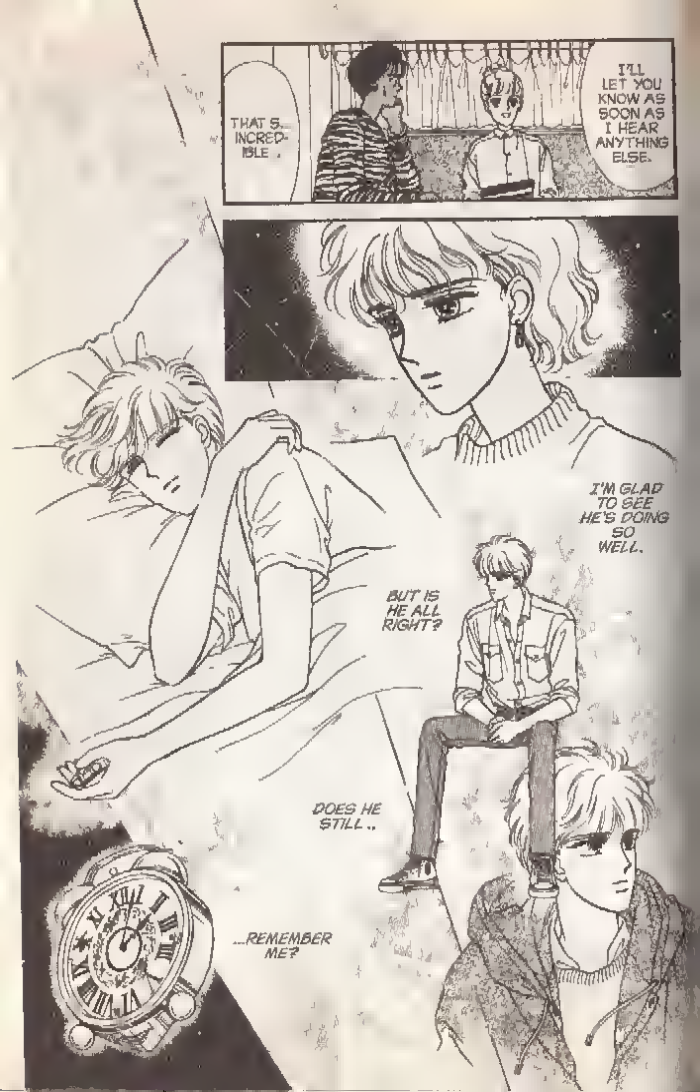

CIPHER'S AGENT
I LEFT A MESSAGE SAYING "GET IN TOUCH WITH ANISE."
MORNING, GUYS!
HI, SIVA.
GOOD MORNING
I TOLD HIM TO, SO HE PROBABLY WILL.
HE'S SOMEWHERE IN L.A.
I WONDER
WILL CIPHER REALLY GET IN TOUCH WITH ME?

YOU GOT CIPHER'S ADDRESS ?!
Caffe N-POLI Espresso
LET ME KNOW IF YOU DON'T HEAR ANYTHING.
LATER!
WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?
HERE'S ALL THE LATEST DATA ON CIPHER.
I FOUND OUT A LOT OF STUFF, TOO.
NO, JUST HIS AGENT'S.
WELL, THAT'S BETTER THAN NOTHING

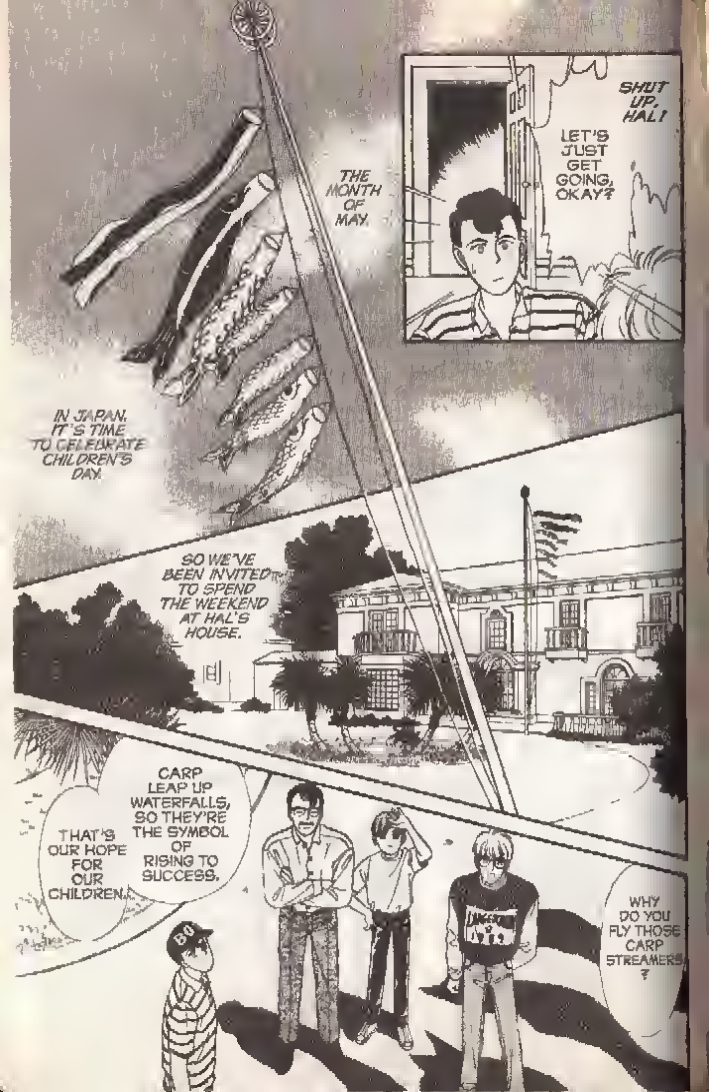

HOW DID YOU GET ALL THIS?
MAGAZINE ARTICLES, VIDEOS AND THIS IS HIS WORK SCHEDULE!
WOW! YOU GOT ALL THIS?!

CIPHER HAS A FAN CLUB?!
FAN CLUB?!
THE FAN CLUB CAN DO ANY-THING!

MOST OF IT CAME FROM THE WEST COAST MEMBERS.
I GOT ALL THIS FROM THE STAFF HEAD-QUARTERS!
WHEN SIVA ANNOUNCED HIS RETIREMENT, THE CLUB ALMOST DISBANDED
CIPHER AND SIVA HAVE HAD ONE SINCE THEY WERE CHILD ACTORS.
SURE
OF COURSE I'M A MEMBER!

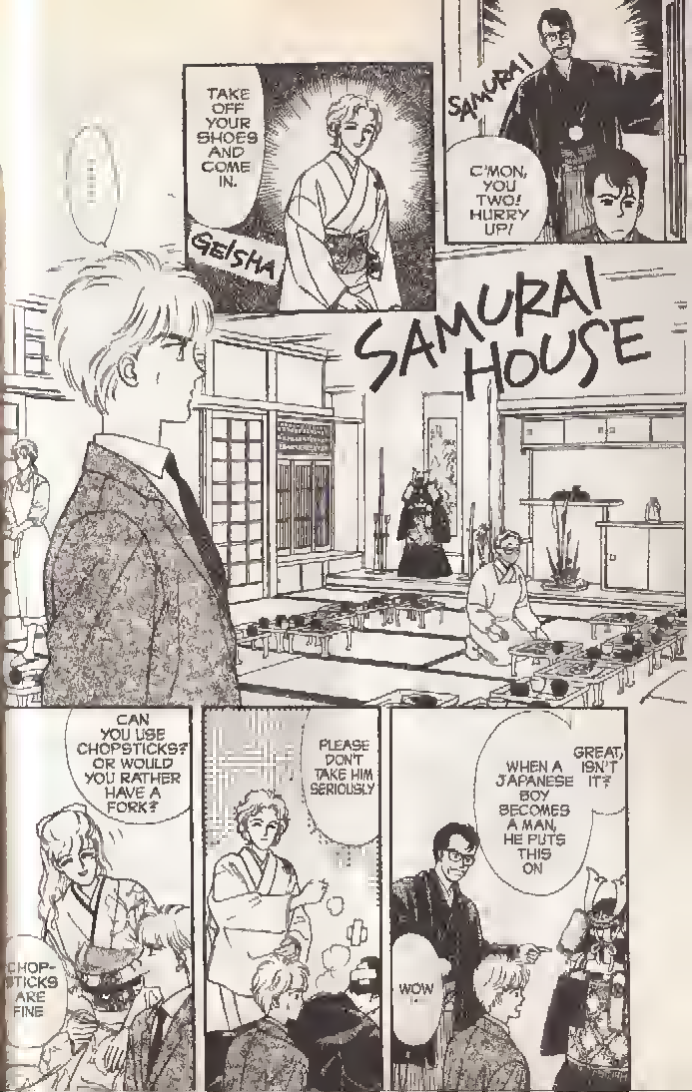

THAT S... INCRED-IBLE .
I'LL LET YOU KNOW AS SOON AS I HEAR ANYTHING ELSE.
I'M GLAD TO SEE HE'S DOING SO WELL.
BUT IS HE ALL RIGHT?
DOES HE STILL .. ...REMEMBER ME?

WELL ...
...THAT ONE'S DIFFER-ENT.
I'VE GOT ALL KINDS OF CLOCKS.
WHAT ARE YOU PACKING THIS OLD ALARM CLOCK FOR?
WHAT?!
PFFT
JUST LIKE IT, THAT'S ALL
I GOT IT FROM MY DEAD GRAND-MOTHER
YOU'RE LIKE A KID WITH A STUFFED ANIMAL!
...YOU BROUGHT IT HERE JUST BECAUSE YOU LIKE IT?!
Y-YOU..


SHUT UP, HAL!
LET'S JUST GET GOING, OKAY?
THE MONTH OF MAY.
IN JAPAN, IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE CHILDREN'S DAY.
SO WE'VE BEEN INVITED TO SPEND THE WEEKEND AT HAL'S HOUSE.
CARP LEAP UP WATERFALLS, SO THEY'RE THE SYMBOL OF RISING TO SUCCESS.
THAT'S OUR HOPE FOR OUR CHILDREN.
WHY DO YOU FLY THOSE CARP STREAMERS?

THAT ONE'S FOR YOU.
WAIT THERE'S ONE TOO MANY!
THEY REPRESENT OUR WHOLE FAMILY.
AT THE TOP IS THE FATHER, THEN THE MOTHER AND THE CHILDREN.
OH...
THANK YOU.
WE WANT YOU TO FEEL LIKE YOU RE ONE OF THE FAMILY.
OKAY
IT'S A BIG DINNER TONIGHT. YOU GOTTA WEAR A TIE.
WAY TO GO, DAD!

FAMILY...
KNOCK KNOCK
KNOCK KNOCK
YOU DRESSED YET? IT'S TIME TO GO.
HUH?!
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN YOU LIKE THAT.
SAME HERE.

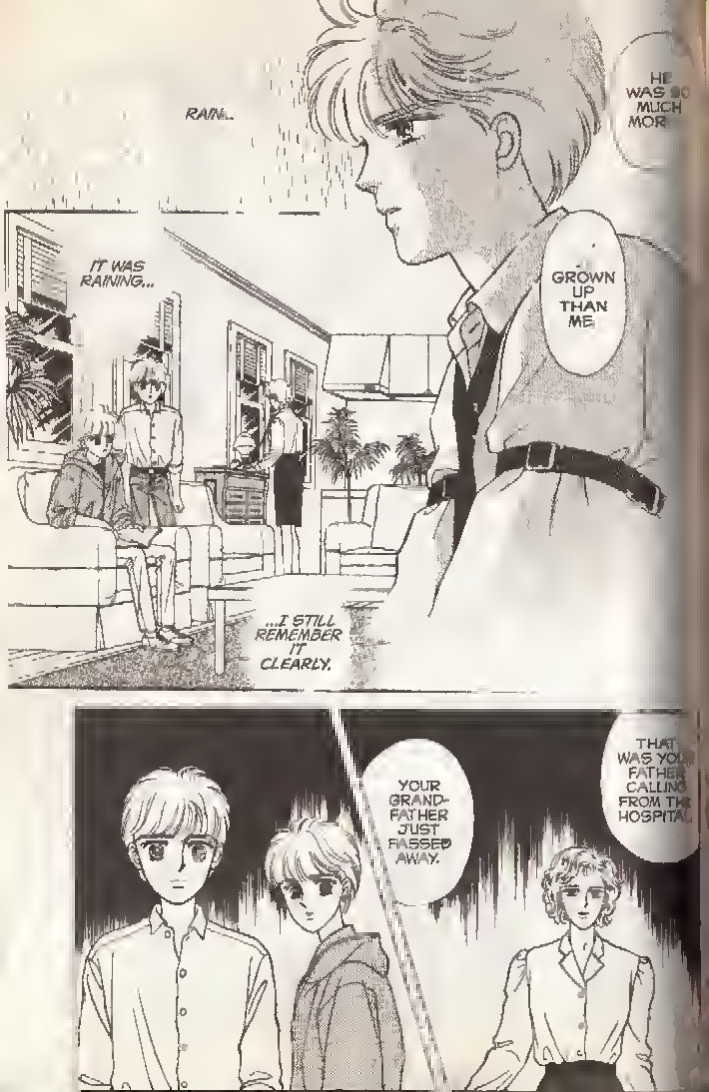

SAMURAI HOUSE
SAMURAI
C'MON, YOU TWO! HURRY UP!
GEISHA
TAKE OFF YOUR SHOES AND COME IN.
CAN YOU USE CHOPSTICKS? OR WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE A FORK?
CHOP-STICKS ARE FINE
PLEASE DON'T TAKE HIM SERIOUSLY
GREAT, ISN'T IT?
WHEN A JAPANESE BOY BECOMES A MAN, HE PUTS THIS ON
WOW

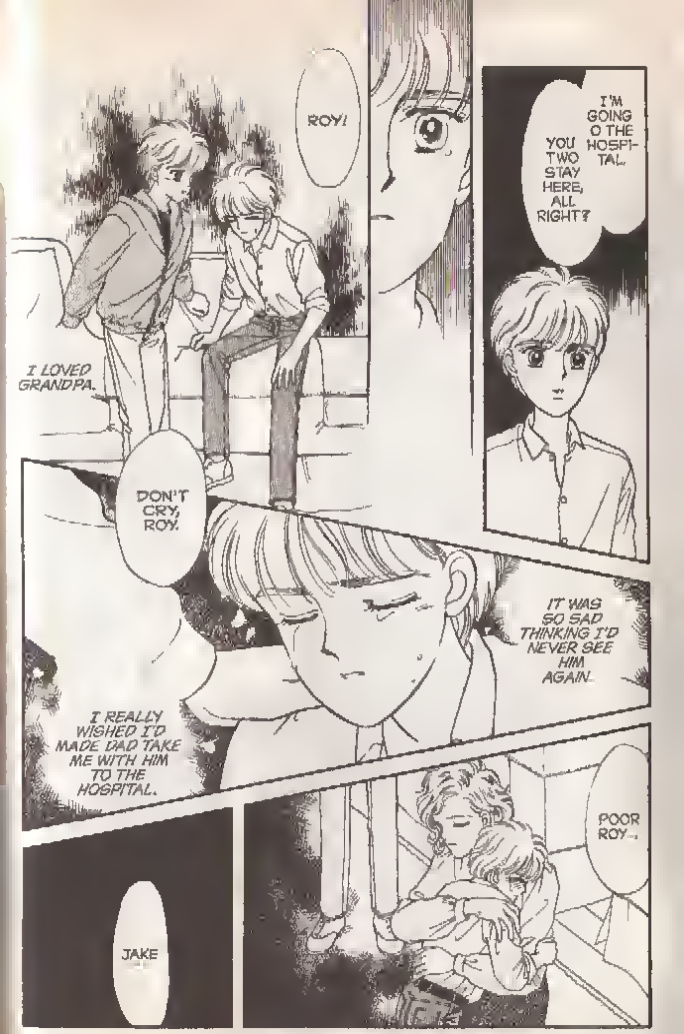
But I can't see Celes then.
I CAN DO IT, TOO.
HE'S BETTER THAN YOU ARE, KID.
WHAT A GREAT FAMILY.
CLICK

WELL, HE'S TAKEN A LIKING TO YOU.
BECAUSE YOU LOOK SO HONEST
Only at first, though.
.....
BAM!
EVEN WITH THAT LOUD-MOUTHED, STUBBORN OLD MAN?
REALLY THINK SO?
HE'S A GOOD FATHER, ISN'T HE?
ADULTS HAVE THOUGHT I WAS CUTE EVER SINCE I WAS A KID.
YEAH, I CAN PICTURE THAT!
TELL ME...
..DO YOU THINK I'M CHILD-ISH?
.....

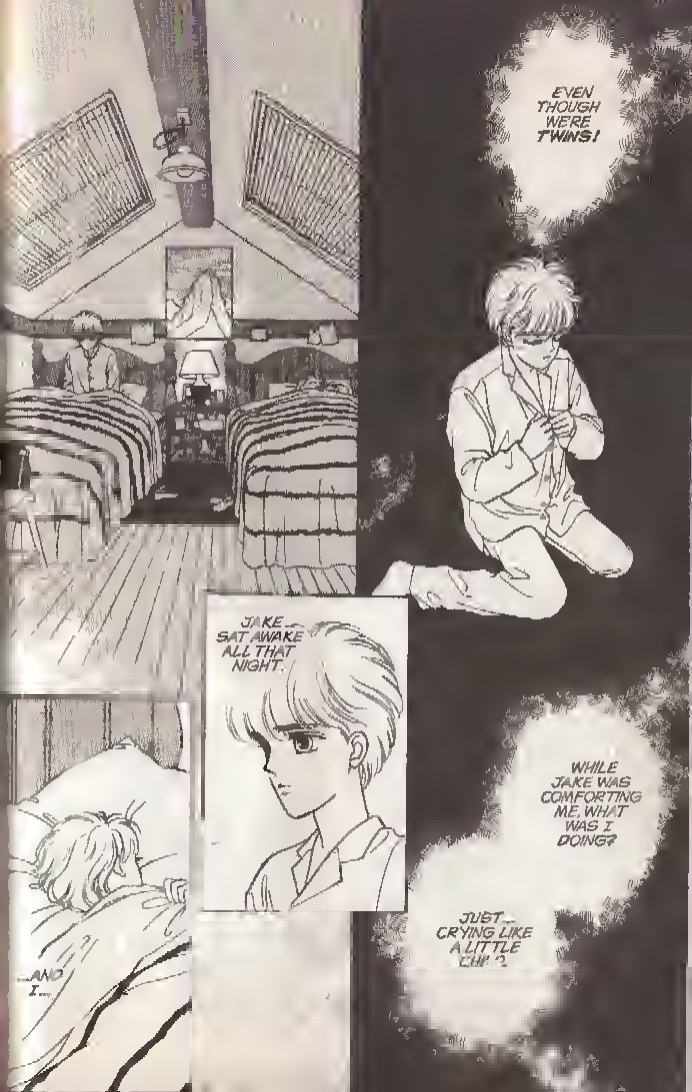
DON'T TELL ME...
YOU'RE STILL UPSET THAT I CALLED YOU A KID THIS AFTER-NOON?!
OH...
HUH? WHY?
JUST BECAUSE ADULTS LIKE YOU DOESN'T MEAN YOU'RE CHILDISH.
YEAH. IT'S EVEN OKAY FOR AN ADULT TO BE LIKE THAT.
"CHILDISH" IS THE BAD ONE
It's like when girls call each other "cute."
YOU MEAN 'LIKE A KID" IS BETTER?
OH, GIMME A BREAK.
SAYING SOMEONE IS "LIKE A KID" AND THAT THEY'RE "CHILDISH" ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT!

DAMN
WHEN I WAS A CHILD, I REALLY WAS CHILDISH
SO I DIDN'T REALLY UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE, AND EITHER ONE MADE ME FEEL GUILTY.
WHEN KIDS GO FROM KINDER-GARTEN TO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL...
...THEY HATE IT WHEN AN ADULT HOLDS THEIR HAND AND WALKS WITH THEM.
AND THEN THERE WAS JAKE ...
WHY'D YOU FEEL GUILTY?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH A CHILD BEING A CHILD?
AND IN MY CASE, I WAS ALREADY WORKING.
I THOUGHT I HAD TO HURRY AND GROW UP.


RAIN.
HE WAS SO MUCH MOR
GROWN UP THAN ME.
IT WAS RAINING...
...I STILL REMEMBER IT CLEARLY.
YOUR GRAND-FATHER JUST PASSED AWAY.
THAT WAS YOUR FATHER CALLING FROM THE HOSPITAL.


I'M GOING O THE HOSPI-TAL.
YOU TWO STAY HERE, ALL RIGHT?
ROY!
I LOVED GRANDPA.
DON'T CRY, ROY.
IT WAS SO SAD THINKING I'D NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN.
I REALLY WISHED I'D MADE DAD TAKE ME WITH HIM TO THE HOSPITAL.
JAKE
POOR ROY...

TAKE CARE OF HIM
I'M GOING NOW.
BUT THEN...
A FI
..I COULDN'T FIGURE OU WHY I FE SUCH A SHOCK.
WHEN OUR PARENTS WERE GONE...
...THEY LEFT HIM IN CHARGE.
...AS I WATCHED JAKE CLOSE THE CURTAINS AND SHUT DOWN THE HOUSE FOR THE NIGHT...
...A PATTERN BEGAN TO TAKE SHAPE.


EVEN THOUGH WE'RE TWINS!
JAKE... SAT AWAKE ALL THAT NIGHT.
WHILE JAKE WAS COMFORTING ME, WHAT WAS I DOING?
JUST... CRYING LIKE A LITTLE CHI'2
...AND I...

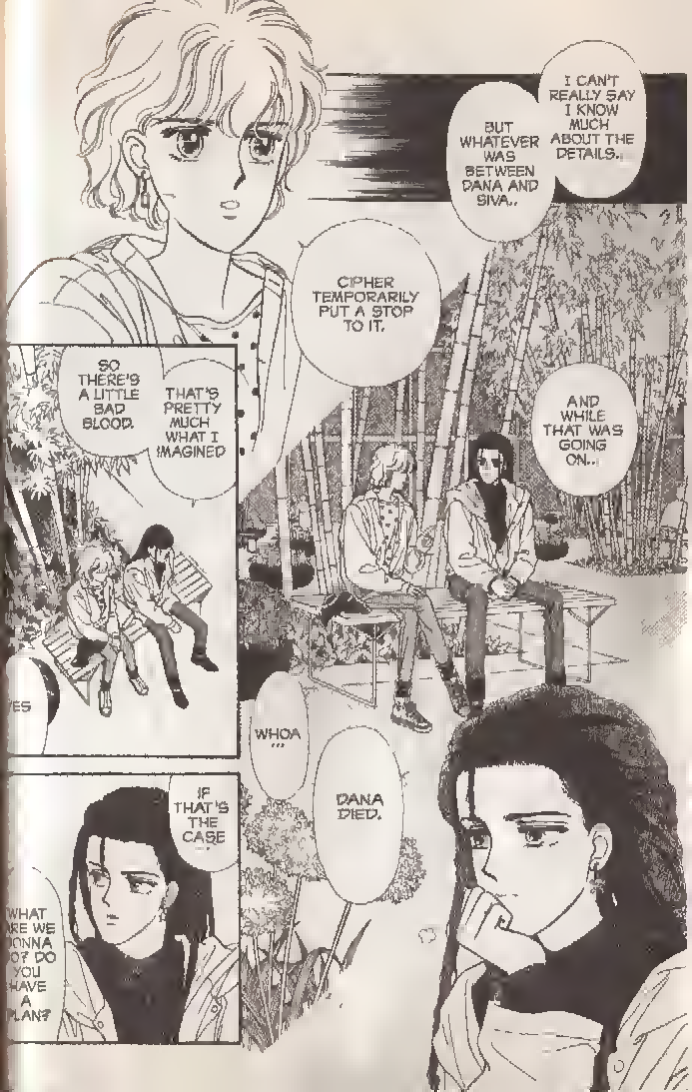
GOOD AFTERNOON!

I HOPE YOU ALL ARE DOING WELL. I'M NOT SO HOT MYSELF. RECENTLY IT'S TAKEN A LOT OF STRENGTH TO KEEP DRAWING.

IT'S NOT THAT I'M GETTING SICK OF DRAWING IT. I JUST THAT I DON'T FEEL LIKE DOING IT NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT. I'VE BEEN FEELING THIS WAY FOR A WHILE, BUT I KEPT TELLING MYSELF TO HANG IN THERE. NOW I THINK I'M BURNING OUT ON OVERWORK. BUT IT'S WEIRD THAT JUST WHEN I THINK I'VE GOT TO GIVE UP I START DRAWING BETTER STUFF THAN EVER. THIS VOLUME IS "THE TURNING POINT." I HOPE THIS ONE IS DIFFERENT FROM THE LAST SEVERAL VOLUMES.

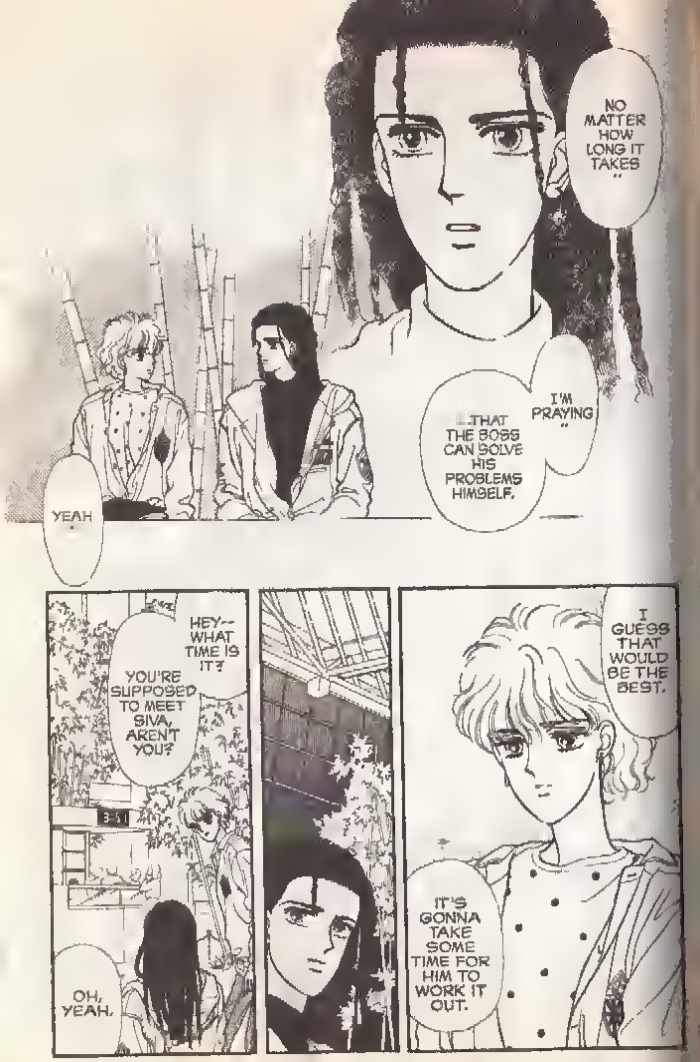
SO IN THIS SPACE I'M JUST GOING TO DRAW WHAT I FEEL LIKE. IT'LL BE HARD TO DO OTHERWISE. DRAWING HAS GOT TO BE FUN!

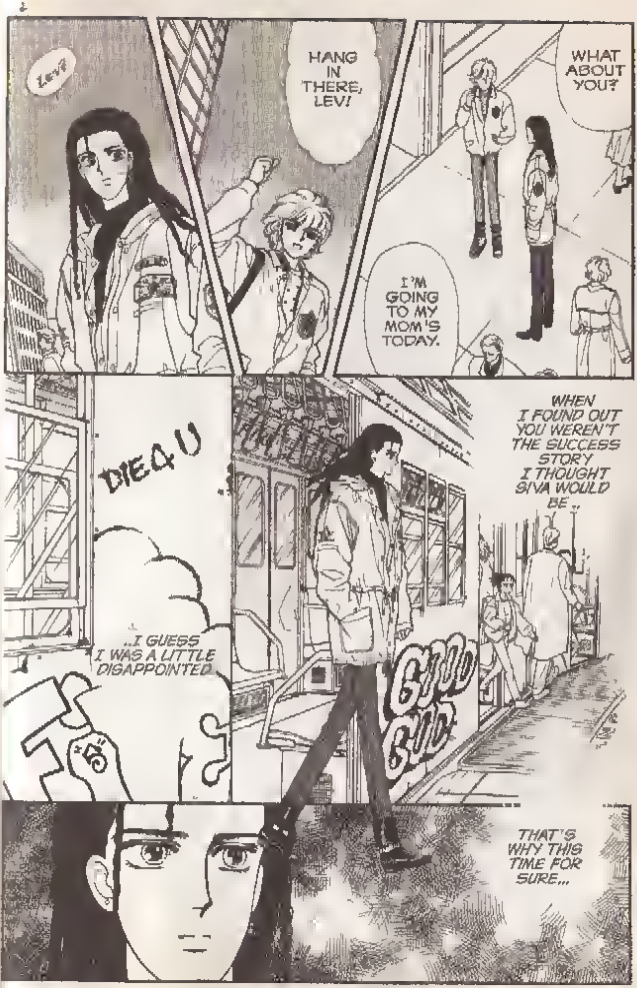
I HAD TO PRETEND I WAS ASLEEP.

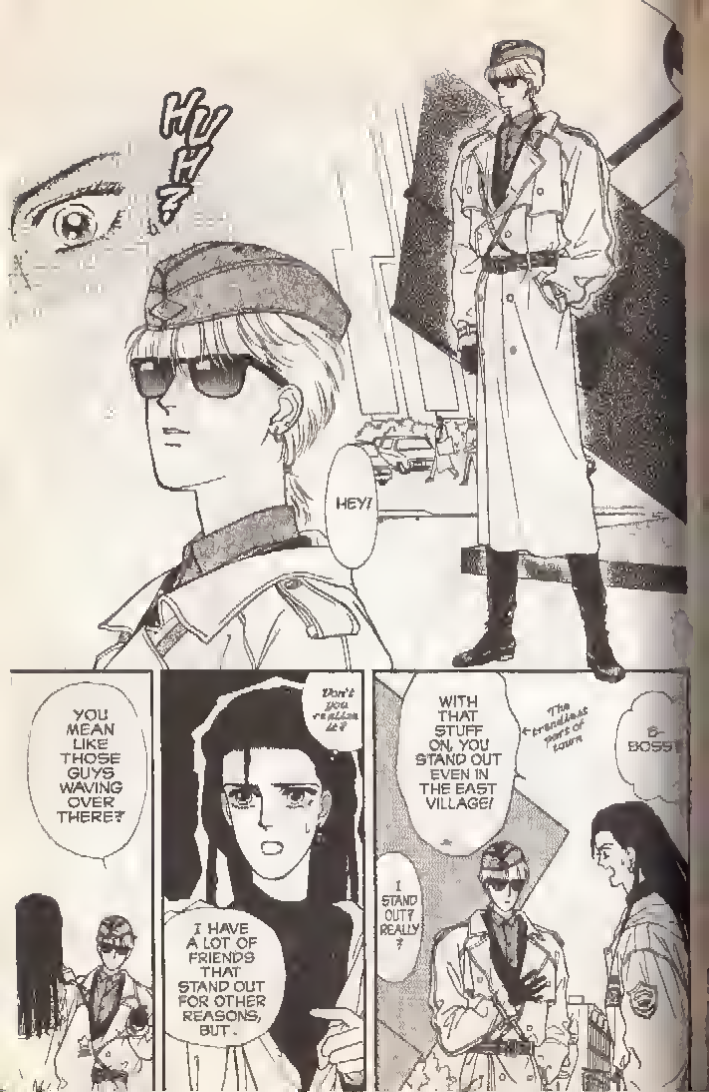

I CAN'T REALLY SAY I KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE DETAILS..
BUT WHATEVER WAS BETWEEN DANA AND SIVA..
CIPHER TEMPORARILY PUT A STOP TO IT.
AND WHILE THAT WAS GOING ON..
SO THERE'S A LITTLE BAD BLOOD.
THAT'S PRETTY MUCH WHAT I IMAGINED
WHOA ...
DANA DIED.
IF THAT'S THE CASE ..
WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO? DO YOU HAVE A PLAN?

WOW!
SIVA
HE TRACKED DOWN THE ADDRESS OF CIPHER'S AGENT.
BUT I GET THE FEELING...
THAT CIPHER DOESN'T WANT TO CONTACT US.
SO FIRST...
...I THINK WE HAVE TO HELP SIVA DEAL WITH HIS FEELINGS.
YOU'RE RIGHT
IN THE END...
...UNTIL SIVA SAYS HE FORGIVES CIPHER, AND UNTIL CIPHER GETS OVER HIS OWN FEELINGS...
...THERE'S NOTHING ANYONE ELSE CAN DO TO CHANGE THINGS

BUT
...I HAVE NO IDEA HOW TO DO THAT.
WHEN I'M FEELING REALLY BAD ABOUT SOMETHING..
...I DON'T NOTICE ANYTHING ELSE HAPPENING AROUND ME.
YEAH, ME, TOO.
I THINK
...ALL I CAN DO IS TO BE PATIENT AND SUPPORT HIM
IN RETURN..

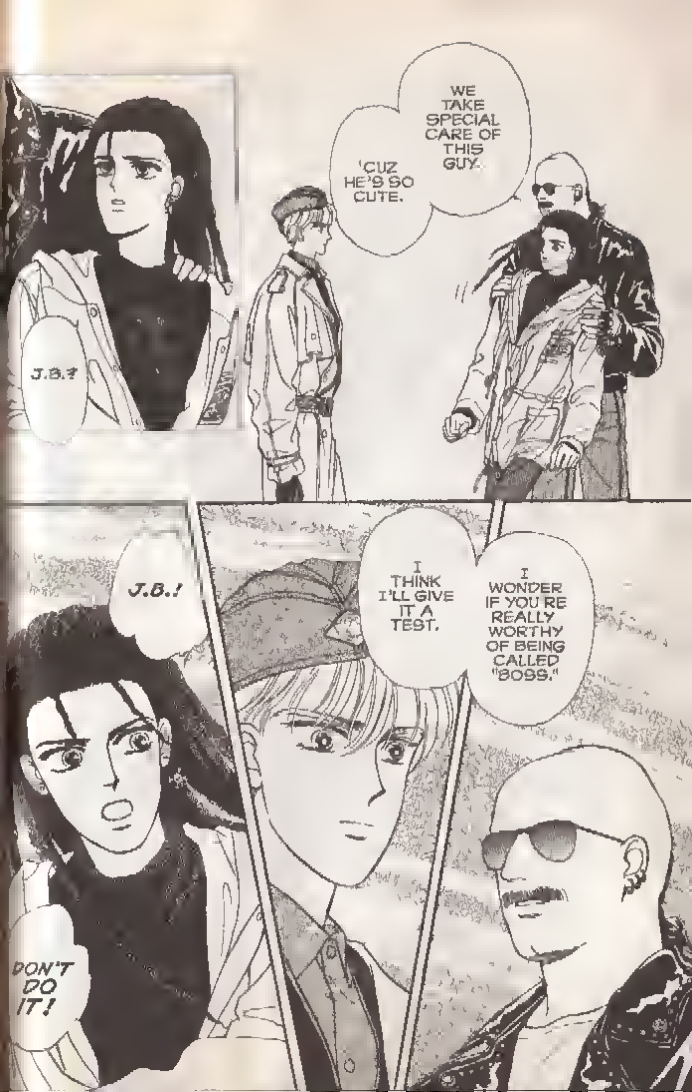

NO MATTER HOW LONG IT TAKES "
I'M PRAYING "
...THAT THE BOSS CAN SOLVE HIS PROBLEMS HIMSELF.
YEAH.
HEY-- WHAT TIME IS IT?
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO MEET SIVA, AREN'T YOU?
OH, YEAH.
I GUESS THAT WOULD BE THE BEST.
IT'S GONNA TAKE SOME TIME FOR HIM TO WORK IT OUT.


Lev?
HANG IN THERE, LEV!
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
I'M GOING TO MY MOM'S TODAY.
DIE4U
...I GUESS I WAS A LITTLE DISAPPOINTED.
WHEN I FOUND OUT YOU WEREN'T THE SUCCESS STORY I THOUGHT SIVA WOULD BE...
GUD GUD
THAT'S WHY THIS TIME FOR SURE...


HUH?
HEY!
YOU MEAN LIKE THOSE GUYS WAVING OVER THERE?
Don't you realize it?
I HAVE A LOT OF FRIENDS THAT STAND OUT FOR OTHER REASONS, BUT.
WITH THAT STUFF ON, YOU STAND OUT EVEN IN THE EAST VILLAGE!
The trendiest part of town
B-BOSS!
I STAND OUT? REALLY?

THE FUNKY BUNCH
OH MAN.
HEY!!
... THANKS FOR THE OTHER DAY
THEY'RE THE GUYS WHO FOUND ANISE, AREN'T THEY?
UH, YEAH.
YO, DUDE. I WAS WONDERING WHO THOSE TWO FLASHY GUYS WERE...
AND LO AND BEHOLD, IT'S YOU TWO!
Are we flashy?
HEY ...
WELL, I BETTER GO THANK THEM.
BOSS!

HEY, I'M JUST A GUY, AND I WANT TO THANK THEM.
BUT...
LISTEN! DON'T YOU REALIZE YOU'RE A CELEBRITY?
WELL, WELL.
THERE'S ONLY ONE PERSON THIS GUY CALLS "BOSS."
ANYWAY, THEY ALREADY KNOW WHO I AM, DON'T THEY?
THEY WERE PASSING AROUND OUR PHOTOS BEFORE.
!
WE ONLY DID IT BECAUSE LEVINE ASKED US TO.
YOU DON'T GOTTA THANK US.
YOU MUST BE SIVA.


WE TAKE SPECIAL CARE OF THIS GUY.
'CUZ HE'S SO CUTE.
J.B.?
I WONDER IF YOU'RE REALLY WORTHY OF BEING CALLED "BOSS."
I THINK I'LL GIVE IT A TEST.
J.B.!
DON'T DO IT!

ARE THEY SERIOUS?!